



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY  
OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

April 15, 2020

Honorable Tom Wolf  
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

President

Tracey Conti, MD  
Monroeville

President-Elect

Tiffany Leonard, MD  
Willow Grove

Treasurer

Thiri Bickel, MD  
Etters

Board Chair

Mary Stock Keister, MD  
Fogelsville

Executive Vice President

Brent Ennis, EVP & CEO  
Harrisburg

Dear Governor Wolf:

As providers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pennsylvania's family physicians routinely risk their own health, and the health and safety of their families, to ensure that their patients are receiving the care they need during this unprecedented time. Around the world, global leaders and the public alike are recognizing the sacrifices that health care providers are making in the fight against this deadly virus.

Equally as important as the physical health of our front-line providers, is their mental and emotional health as they struggle to appropriately care for acutely sick patients, while making decisions in the best interest of the public health. Providers are coping with the fear of civil and criminal liability, even as they administer life-saving care. This provides for a highly stressful environment that has no doubt taken its toll on the health care provider community.

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) and our more than 5,500 physician, resident and student members, I respectfully urge you to sign an executive order granting immunity from medical liability for care rendered during the Commonwealth's COVID-19 emergency declaration. This would allow family physicians and other health care professionals the ability to provide critically needed care without the looming threat of civil and criminal lawsuits.

Taking this important step will demonstrate to our front-line providers that their heroic efforts to stop the threat of COVID-19 are wholly recognized and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tracey Conti, MD  
President  
412-901-6240, [contitd@upmc.edu](mailto:contitd@upmc.edu)